

Wycombe lack bite but beat Casuals

Sports Mail Special Report

WYCOMBE WANDS. 3 CORINTHIAN-CAS. 1

ALTHOUGH Wycombe's marksmanship lacked venom, they were too good for Corinthian-Casuals this afternoon and won 3-1 for their fourth Isthmian League success in a row.

Wycombe Wanderers: Brown, Beck, Moring, Truett, Fisher, Fryer; Rockell, Trott, Bates, Howson, Tomlin.

Corinthian Casuals: Wakefield, Hewitson, Harrison, Black, Vowels, Smith; Insole, Sanders, Browne, Williams, Jessop.

Both sides attacked in turn at the start, but Wycombe looked the more dangerous. Once a shot by Bates spread across the goalmouth, but Rockell was just unable to reach it.

Then a shot by Howson was blocked by a back almost on the goal line, and a little later another attempt by Truett went inches wide with the Casuals' defence spreadeagled.

ACCURATE CENTRE

At the other end Jessop ballooned the ball from a good position after an accurate centre by Browne.

Bates had a good chance for Wycombe after eluding a back, but his shot flashed wide of the post.

Howson missed the best chance for Wycombe when a header from Bates left him with an open goal. He shot straight at the goalkeeper.

But HOWSON atoned a few minutes later when he gave Wycombe the lead after good approach play by Truett.

NEAT HEADER

Just before half-time, Saunders almost equalised for Casuals with a neat header which went inches wide.

Half-time: Wycombe W. 1, Corinthian Casuals 0.

A series of all out attacks by Wycombe brought the first real excitement of the game, and ten minutes after the resumption ROCKELL ran in from the right wing to score after a good

movement by Tomlin and Trott to put Wycombe two up.

Goalkeeper Wakefield had a hectic time as Wycombe stepped up the pace. Taking the kick himself, after being fouled in the area, Bates shot wide from a spot kick but soon afterwards he supplied the cross pass by which HOWSON scored Wycombe's third.

When Casuals hit back with a series of strong attacks, INSOLE scored from a pass by Williams with a shot which Brown should have saved.

Trott and Howson both missed easy chances for Wycombe and at the other end, Fryer saved a certain goal by a last minute interception when centre forward Browne broke through.

RESULT:

WYCOMBE WANDERS 3 CORINTHIAN - CASUALS 1

Wycombe on top but miss goals

Wycombe 3, Cor-Casuals 1

ALTHOUGH Wycombe Wanderers were well worth the Isthmian League points against Corinthian Casuals their display again far from reassured their supporters.

Poor finishing by all the forwards spoiled much of the midfield constructive work particularly in the first half when the Casuals' long-passing tactics gave them a fair share of the play.

Centre-forward Browne tried hard to infuse some punch into the Casuals' attack, but like Wycombe they were unable to round off promising approach work.

The only goal of an unexciting first half came after half an hour when Howson, who had earlier missed a sitter, scored for Wycombe following clever play by Trewett.

Wycombe's revival early in the second half brought the first thrill of the game as the home forwards hammered the Casuals' goal in a succession of swift raids in which wingers Rockell and Tomlin were prominent.

In a stubborn Casuals' defence centre-half Vowels kept the Wycombe leader Paul Bates quieter than usual. But goalkeeper Wakefield was beaten three times in a hectic 20 minutes of Wycombe assault.

Rockell got the ball in within two minutes but was ruled offside. Minutes later he ran in to convert a left-wing pass.

Bates missed a penalty, but a few minutes later he supplied the pass by which Howson put Wycombe three up.

Well served by their busy halves Wycombe continued to mount repeated attacks, but finishing was still erratic.

The Casuals' hit back in breakaway raids in one of which winger Douglas Insole, always a wily raider converted a pass from Williams.